

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 T-03

GAC-01 OMB-01 SAJ-01 IO-12 ACDA-19 MBFR-03 EA-11

NEA-10 SAL-01 TRSE-00 RSR-01 /153 W
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R 121815 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3820

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION NATO

AMCONGEN BREMEN

AMCONGEN DUESSELDORF

AMCONGEN FRANKFURT

AMCONGEN HAMBURG

AMCONGEN MUNICH

AMCONGEN STUTTGART

UNCLAS BONN 3661

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, GW

SUBJECT: BRANDT INTERVIEW IN THE NEUE RUHR ZEITUNG (PART II,
MARCH 10)

REFERENCE: BONN 3552; BONN 3340

1. RESPONDING TO A QUESTION ABOUT UPCOMING NEGOTIATIONS
WITH THE UNITED STATES. BRANDT SAID THAT U. S. TRADE WITH
THE EC HAS GROWN BETTER THAN AMERICAN TRADE WITH ANY
OTHER PART OF THE WORLD AND IS MORE BALANCED. IN SPITE OF
THIS, THERE EXISTS POSSIBILITIES TO FIND A BETTER
REGULATION OF THIS. " I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN ONE OF THOSE
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WHO HAVE ADVOCATED THE SPECIAL IMPORTANCE OF OUR RELATIONS TO THE U. S., CANADA, AND JAPAN; THEY ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT PARTNERS OF WESTERN EUROPE. THERE IS NO REASON FOR WESTERN EUROPE TO HANG ITS HEAD IN THE CORNER. THE NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE SUCCESSFUL IF BOTH SIDES SHOW UNDERSTANDING FOR THE PROBLEMS OF THE OTHER."

2. ASKED WHETHER THERE WAS A CONNECTION BETWEEN THE QUESTION OF THE STATIONING OF THE TROOPS AND OFFSET PAYMENTS, BRANDT SAID " IT WOULD BE VERY UNLUCKY IF ATTEMPTS TO OBTAIN MONETARY BALANCE BECAME ENTANGLED IN UNNECESSARY CONTROVERSY. UNLUCKY BECAUSE INVOLVED HERE TO A GREAT DEGREE ARE COMMON INTERESTS. WE VERY MUCH WELCOME THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF PRESIDENT NIXON, AS THOSE OF HIS PREDECESSORS, BELIEVES THAT THE U. S. MUST ENGAGE ITSELF PERMANENTLY IN EUROPE; NOT ONLY AT CONFERENCES SUCH AS IN HELSINKI AND VIENNA BUT IN DIRECT CO- RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SECURITY OF EUROPE. THE INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES ARE ALSO CONCERNED HERE. BECAUSE THIS IS THE CASE, IT SHOULD NOT DEGENERATE INTO UNNECESSARY CONTROVERSY. I HOPE THAT ONE CAN AVOID THIS."

3. BRANDT ADDED, " NATURALLY, THE MONETARY OFFSET PROBLEM IN PRINCIPLE IS A EUROPEAN PROBLEM IN ITS RELATIONS TO AMERICA. WE KNOW ENOUGH TO TREASURE THE FACT THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS ENGAGED HERSELF. BUT SHE ENGAGES HERSELF (A) FOR HERSELF AND (B) IN THE RELATIONS BETWEEN EUROPE AND THE UNITED STATES."

4. IN ANSWER TO THE QUESTION WHETHER THE UNITED STATES REMAINS THE NUMBER ONE ALLIANCE PARTNER FOR THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC, BRANDT SAID SIMPLY, " JA*".

5. IN DISCUSSION ABOUT THE HELSINKI AND VIENNA CONFERENCES, BRANDT SAID THAT THE PREPARATORY TALKS IN HELSINKI HAVE GONE BETTER THAN ONE COULD HAVE ASSUMED. " I BELIEVE THAT COMING OUT OF THE HELSINKI CONFERENCE WILL BE AN IMPROVEMENT IN COOPERATION AND EXCHANGE; NO SENSATIONAL CHANGES BUT MORE CONTACT... VIENNA REQUIRES MORE CARE... IF I CAN OVERSIMPLIFY, UNCLASSIFIED

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ONE WILL NEED SEVERAL MORE YEARS BEFORE ONE GETS

DOWN TO THE MAIN SUBJECT."

6. BRANDT WAS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE CONCLUSION OF AN
FRG AGREEMENT WITH PRAGUE THIS YEAR. FROM THIS SHOULD
FLOW NORMALIZATION OF FRG RELATIONS WITH HUNGARY AND
BULGARIA. HILLENBRAND

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